

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO

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AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY BISSAU

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

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FOLLOWING TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN, MOSCOW, PRAGUE,
LONDON, ROME, BRUSSELS, THE HAGUE, COPENHAGEN, STOCKHOLM,
OSLO, HELSINKI, VIENNA, OTTAWA, MADRID, LISBON, ATHENS FROM
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AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, FR

SUBJECT: CGT AND WFTU

REF: PARIS 32669, 32043, 30894

1. SUMMARY: THE CGT HAS GIVEN LE MONDE'S BEST
KNOWN LABOR REPORTER AN EXPLANATION OF WHAT IS
HAPPENING WITHIN WFTU; AND WHAT THE CGT WANTS TO
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SEE HAPPEN AT THE NEXT CONGRESS IN PRAGUE: THE TRANS-
FORMATION OF WFTU INTO A MORE SUPPLE ORGANIZATION.
END SUMMARY.

2. ON NOVEMBER 21, LE MONDE PUBLISHED A STORY,
UNDER THE BY-LINE OF JOANINE ROY, THE PAPER'S BEST
KNOWN LABOR REPORTER, OF WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING

WITHIN WFTU AND WHAT THE CGT WANTS TO SEE COME OUT OF THE WFTU APRIL CONGRESS IN PRAGUE. THE STORY, BASED ON ATTRIBUTED CONVERSATIONS WITH CGT INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS CHIEF RENE DUHAMEL, AND FELLOW NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEMBER JOANNES GALLARD, ASSERTS THAT THE CGT WANTS WFTU TO BECOME A CENTER FOR CONTACT, OPEN TO ALL; AND THAT IF THE ORGANIZATION DOESN'T EVOLVE, THE CGT WILL NOT ASK FRENCH WFTU GENERAL SECRETARY GENSOUS TO STAY IN OFFICE. THE STORY THEN PROVIDES THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT, FULLY COMPATIBLE WITH REFTELS, OF WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING WITHIN WFTU.

3. AT THE OCTOBER 26-27 WFTU MEETING IN BUDAPEST, THE FRENCH, ITALIAN, HUNGARIAN, ROMANIAN AND, IN A VERY CAREFUL WAY, THE EAST GERMAN DELEGATIONS, TOGETHER WITH THOSE FROM CERTAIN AFRICAN COUNTRIES (ONLY THE MALAGASY MENTIONED BY NAME) REJECTED TWO IMPORTANT DRAFT CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS, AND RETURNED THEM TO THE SOVIET DOMINATED DRAFTING COMMITTEE.

A. THE FIRST DRAFT DEALT WITH THE CONDITIONS OF THE WORKERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, AND CONTRASTED THE IDYLIC SITUATION OF THOSE IN THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES WITH THE MISERIES OF THOSE IN THE CAPITALIST COUNTRIES.
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B. THE OTHER DRAFT CONSISTED OF A CHARTER OF REQUIRED ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS, DIRECTED SOLELY AT THE WORKERS IN THE CAPITALIST COUNTRIES.

4. THE CGT ALSO COMPLAINED ABOUT THE ELIMINATION OF THE FORMERLY FREE DISCUSSION WITHIN WFTU, AND THE RIGIDITY OF ITS STRUCTURE, WHICH PREVENTS THE SPANISH WORKERS COMMISSIONS AND OTHER CLASS-STRUGGLE ORIENTED UNIONS FROM BECOMING MEMBERS.

5. THE CGT NOW REPORTEDLY IS AIMING AT BASIC CHANGES IN WFTU, SPECIFICALLY A RELAXATION OF THE ORGANIZATION'S STRUCTURE, WHICH WOULD TURN IT INTO A FORUM OPEN TO ALL FOR MEETINGS, EXCHANGES OF VIEWS, AND RESEARCH; INCLUDING SUCH POSSIBLE PROJECTS AS A JOINT WFTU-ICFTU-WCL-JAPANESE ACTION ON MULTINATIONALS. THE CGT, IT IS FURTHER EXPLAINED, IS NOT PLANNING AT THIS TIME ON LEAVING THE WFTU; HOWEVER, THAT SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS A SLAP AT THE EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (ETUC) BUT ONLY A REFLECTION OF THE FACT THAT THE DOOR TO THAT ORGANIZATION IS

CURRENTLY CLOSED TO THE CGT BY THE OPPOSITION OF THE
DGB AND FO TO COMMUNISM.

6. TEXT OF ARTICLE BEING POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT
AND ILAB. HARTMAN UNQUOTE VANCE

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